AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A receiver circuit, comprising:

an optical receiving device,

a plurality of amplifiers which are connected to the receiving device[[,]]; ~~and~~

circuit means for individually activating and deactivating the individual amplifiers[[,]];

a detecting circuit for detecting the bandwidth of a signal which has been detected by the optical receiving device; and

one or more control lines connecting the detecting circuit with the circuit means for individually activating and deactivating the individual amplifiers;

wherein the detecting circuit is configured to provide control signals to the circuit means via the one or more control lines for activating the one of the plurality of amplifiers most suited to amplify the bandwidth detected by the detecting circuit;

wherein the amplifiers each differ from one another in at least one parameter, and

wherein only one amplifier is activated at a given point in time and the other amplifiers are deactivated.

2. **(Previously Presented)** The receiver circuit according to Claim 1, wherein the amplifiers each have a connection for providing a supply voltage, and the circuit means switch the supply voltage on or off for the purpose of individually activating and deactivating the individual amplifiers.

3. **(Previously Presented)** The receiver circuit according to Claim 1, wherein the amplifiers each have an input connected to the receiving device and an output, and wherein

the circuit means switch the input on or off for the purpose of individually activating and deactivating the individual amplifiers.

4. **(Previously Presented)** The receiver circuit according to Claim 1, wherein the amplifiers each have an input connected to the receiving device and an output, and wherein the circuit means switch the output on or off for the purpose of individually activating and deactivating the individual amplifiers.

5. **(Previously Presented)** The receiver circuit according to Claim 1, wherein the amplifiers each have a current source, and wherein the circuit means switch the current source on or off for the purpose of individually activating and deactivating the individual amplifiers.

6. **(Previously Presented)** The receiver circuit according to Claim 1, wherein each amplifier has a plurality of current sources, and all the current sources in an amplifier are switched on or off.

7. **(Previously Presented)** The receiver circuit according to Claim 1, wherein the amplifiers each comprise a transimpedance amplifier.

8. **(Previously Presented)** The receiver circuit according to Claim 1, wherein the amplifiers each comprise at least two amplifier cells that are connected in series.

9. **(Previously Presented)** The receiver circuit according to Claim 8, wherein at least the first of the amplifier cells, that is connected to the receiving device comprises a transimpedance amplifier.

10. **(Previously Presented)** The receiver circuit according to Claim 1, wherein the individual amplifiers are connected in parallel with one another.

11. **(Previously Presented)** The receiver circuit according to Claim 1, wherein the one parameter in which the individual amplifiers differ is the gain.

12. **(Previously Presented)** The receiver circuit according to Claim 1, wherein the circuit means comprise a plurality of switches that are set individually.

13. **(Previously Presented)** The receiver circuit according to Claim 12, wherein the individual switches comprise MOS transistors.

14. **(Previously Presented)** The receiver circuit according to Claim 1, wherein the circuit means is adjusted via at least one control line.

15. **(Previously Presented)** The receiver circuit according to Claim 1, wherein the receiving device comprises a photodiode.

16. **(Previously Presented)** The receiver circuit according to Claim 1, wherein the individual amplifiers are monolithically integrated in a common chip.

17. **(Currently Amended)** An optical receiver, comprising:

an optical receiving element operable to generate an electrical output signal in response to an optical input signal;

a plurality of amplifiers having inputs coupled to an output of the optical receiving element, wherein the amplifiers each have a unique gain characteristic associated therewith, wherein the plurality of amplifiers each include at least a separate input amplifier stage and an output amplifier stage, wherein the input amplifier stages of the plurality of amplifiers are each coupled to the output of the optical receiving element; and

a control circuit configured to selectively activate one of the plurality of amplifiers based on a data rate of the optical input signal.

18. **(Previously Presented)** The optical receiver of claim 17, wherein the plurality of amplifiers are coupled together in parallel, and wherein the control circuit selectively activates one of the plurality of amplifiers via one or more switches.

19. **(Previously Presented)** The optical receiver of claim 18, wherein the one or more switches comprise switches coupled between an input of the amplifiers and the output of the optical receiving element, switches coupled between an output of the amplifiers and an output of the optical receiver, or switches coupled between a power supply and the amplifiers.

20. (New) The optical receiver of claim 17, wherein the input amplifier stage is a transimpedance amplifier and each output stage is one or more differential amplifiers.

21. (New) The optical receiver of claim 17, wherein each input amplifier stage and each output amplifier stage comprising one of the plurality of amplifiers has a different gain characteristic associated therewith than the gain characteristic associated with the other input amplifier stages and output amplifier stages of the optical receiver.